

TOWN/VILLAGE OF HARRISON
1 HEINEMAN PLACE
HARRISON, NEW YORK 10528
914-670-3000

Stormwater Quarterly

Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

ILLICIT DISCHARGES are substances which find their way into waterways and storm drains, either accidentally or deliberately, decrease water quality and create unsightly conditions. Carelessly discarded trash, illegal waste water connection, household chemicals, oil, and nutrients from over fertilization of lawns can be washed into drains when it rains and eventually end up in Long Island Sound. In 2007, the Town/Village of Harrison began a program to locate and identify illicit discharges and take enforcement action where appropriate.

STORMWATER POLLUTION AND THEIR IMPACTS:

- Oil and grease from automobiles and illegal dumping causes sheen and odor and makes transfer of oxygen difficult for aquatic organisms.
- Sediment from construction activities clouds waterways and interferes with the habitat of living things that depend upon those waters.
- Careless application of pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers affect the health of living organisms, promote the overgrowth of algae, deplete oxygen and cause ecosystem imbalances in waterways.
- Litter damages aquatic life, introduces chemical pollution, and diminishes the beauty of our waterways.

HOW CAN RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES HELP FIGHT ILLICIT DISCHARGE?

- Cleanup after pets in your yard, on sidewalks and streets, in parks and along the waterfront.
- Insure that lawn clippings are mulched in place on your lawn or disposed via our Yard Waste Collection Program. Insure that grass clippings **are not** raked to the curb or into the street.
- If you observe illegal activity such as dumping of trash or oil, household goods or construction debris, note the vehicle license number and description as well as the location (street address if possible) where the material was dumped and alert the Harrison Police Department.
- Get together with a group of neighbors and hold a “neighborhood cleanup” day to collect and dispose of illegally dumped trash and recyclables.
- Alert the Town/Village if you observe discolored water, oil sheen, or unusual odors in streams, lakes and storm drains or at drainage pipes which empty into Long Island Sound. The Illicit Discharge Hotline # is 914-670-3218.

Town/Village of Harrison
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